

## Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FMC-01 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-03 IO-10 /086 W

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R 090715Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1875

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, IR

SUBJ: IRANIAN CROWN PRINCE REPRESENTS SHAH AT SUEZ CANAL REOPENING

REF: CAIRO 5627

1. IRANIAN PRESS HAS GIVEN BANNER HEADLINE TREATMENT TO CROWN PRINCE REZA PAHLAVI'S VISIT TO EGYPT TO TAKE PART IN CEREMONIES AT REOPENING OF SUEZ CANAL. STORIES NOTE THAT THIS WAS FIRST FOREIGN TRIP BY CROWN PRINCE AND HAVE PLAYED UP CELEBRITY TREATMENT AFFORDED HIM BY GOE. NOTEWORTHY WERE DINNER BY VICE PRESIDENT (SIC) MOHAMMED HASANI AT WHICH CROWN PRINCE GAVE HIS FIRST ADDRESS IN ENGLISH, PRIVATE DINNER GIVEN BY SADAT, AND CROWN PRINCE'S POSITION AT SADAT'S SIDE DURING BOTH CANAL-SIDE CEREMONIES AND PASSAGE THROUGH CANAL ON EGYPTIAN DESTROYER "OCTOBER 6." PRESS ALSO REPORTED HIS AERIAL INSPECTION OF CAIRO, HIS VISITS TO SUEZ CITY AND PORT TOWFIQ, AND HIS TOUR OF BATTLEFIELDS ALONG THE BAR LEV LINE, NOTING HE RECEIVED "ROUSING WELCOME" WHEREVER HE WENT.

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2. VISIT GAVE PRESS A CHANCE TO RECALL IRAN'S \$250 MILLION CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT OF PORT SAID AND TO NOTE THAT IRANIAN DESTROYERS "ZAAL" AND "SAAM" WERE AMONG FIRST VESSELS TO TRANSIT THE CANAL. GOE'S OFFER TO IRAN OF FREE PORT FACILITIES AND BUNKERING SERVICES WERE NOTED AS ESTABLISHING AN IRANIAN PRESENCE IN MEDITERRANEAN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MODERN HISTORY. HEADLINE IN JUNE 7 KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL SUMMED UP VISIT BY SAYING CROWN PRINCE HAD "CAPTURED HEARTS OF MILLIONS AT HOME, IN EGYPT, AND IN OTHER COUNTRIES DURING HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT."

3. COMMENT: FOLLOWING SHAH'S JANUARY VISIT TO CAIRO, AT WHICH TIME IT WAS NOTED THAT SHAH'S FIRST FOREIGN VISIT HAD ALSO BEEN TO EGYPT (IN 1959 TO MEET HIS BRIDE, FAWZIAH), CROWN PRINCE'S TRIP UNDERLINES INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF IRAN'S CLOSE RELATIONS WITH EGYPT. ALTHOUGH CROWN PRINCE HAS MET SOME FOREIGN DIGNITARIES DURING THEIR VISITS TO IRAN AND HAS ALSO SUBSTITUTED FOR THE SHAH AT VARIOUS CEREMONIAL OCCASIONS AT HOME, THIS MARKS HIS EMERGENCE ON WORLD SCENE AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS COUNTRY.  
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